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General Assembly
Security Council

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Sixtieth session
Agenda item 40
The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

Security Council
Sixty-first year

Letter dated 24 February 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In addition to my letter (A/60/686-S/2006/118) I have the honour to submit to you the text of an appeal of displaced persons from Khojaly to the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe (see annex).

The residents of Khojaly, who suffered one of the most terrible tragedies of the twentieth century, condemn genocide and acts of terrorism in all their forms, urge humankind to mobilize its efforts for the resolution of all conflicts on the Earth and to struggle for a free and prosperous community of people living in peace and order.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 40, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yashar **Aliyev**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

06-25385 (E) 280206

Annex to the letter dated 24 February 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Appeal of displaced persons from Khojaly to the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe

We, the witnesses of the Khojaly genocide committed in February 1992 in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan, who miraculously survived the tragedy, once again appeal with high hope to the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe as well as to all the civilized world community, and call for the rendering of the due legal and political assessment to the Khojaly genocide.

In order to realize their plan of creating "Great Armenia", Armenians, who erected a monument in 1978 on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of their movement to Azerbaijan from Iran, pursued a consistent policy of aggression against Azerbaijan in the last two centuries with the assistance of their foreign accomplices, and committed crimes against humanity such as genocide, terrorism, homicide and deportation.

Numerous historical documents prove that millions of Azerbaijanis suffering ethnic cleansing and genocide in the periods 1905-1907, 1918-1920 and 1948-1953 in their historical ethnic territories were murdered en masse or obliged to flee from their native lands.

Finally, Armenian separatism and groundless territorial claims against Azerbaijan were raised again in 1988 and the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict began. During 1988-1989, 250,000 Azerbaijanis, to the last man, were deported from their historical ethnic territories in Armenia, with hundreds of civilians brutally killed in the process. Consequently, Armenia became a mono-ethnic country, which was a long-cherished dream of Armenians.

Unfortunately, the former Soviet leadership and the civilized world remained indifferent to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict that started in 1988, the barbarity of Armenians and the torment of Azerbaijanis. Encouraged by this indifference, Armenians succeeded in pursuing their policy of genocide against Azerbaijanis and committing historical crimes one after another. Twenty per cent of the territory of Azerbaijan, including seven regions around Nagorno-Karabakh, was occupied by Armenian armed forces, more than 1 million Azerbaijanis were expelled from native lands, tens of thousands of people were killed, disabled or taken hostage. Hundreds of settlements, thousands of houses, educational and health institutions, historical-cultural monuments, mosques, temples and cemeteries were destroyed, once again proving Armenian vandalism.

Mass slaughter committed by Armenian barbarians against the Azerbaijani population of Karabakh in the villages of Kerkijahan, Mesheli, Koushchular, Karadaghly and Aghdaban, terrorist acts in Baku and other cities, and finally the Khojaly genocide are all the historical stigma of "suffering and miserable" Armenians.

We bring with regret to the attention of the world community that the Khojaly genocide was another link in the chain of great human calamities of the twentieth century such as Khatyn, Hiroshima, Nagasaki and Songmi.

On 26 February 1992, Armenian armed forces, with the direct participation of the 366th Motorized Infantry Regiment of the former Soviet Union located in Khankendi (Stepanakert), attacked the town of Khojaly (where 7,000 Azerbaijanis lived at the time) from five directions. Armenians had been keeping Khojaly under complete siege for the previous four months. On the day of the attack, 3,000 people remained in the town. The population was in need of food and medicines. There were a number of sick, wounded, aged men, women and children in the town.

Armenians, with the assistance of their foreign accomplices, razed to the ground and burned the town by means of the heavy military equipment of the 366th Regiment. Innocent civilians were murdered, with children, women, elderly and the sick being subject to awful torture and mutilation. Thus, Armenians committed a very grave historical crime — the Khojaly genocide against the Azerbaijanis — at the end of the twentieth century before the eyes of civilized humankind. The aim of this action was the homicide of Khojaly residents. It is only by accident that the majority of the residents remained alive as witnesses of the tragedy.

As a result of that genocide, 613 peaceful residents were murdered and 1,275 taken hostage. Of those, the fate of 150 people is still unknown. More than 1,000 people were disabled by bullet wounds; 83 children, 106 women and 70 elderly were among the killed; and 78 of all the mutilated people were minor boys and girls.

As a result of this military-political crime, 6 families were murdered to the last man, 25 children lost both parents and 130 children lost one parent; 56 men were burned with special cruelty, tortured, beheaded and blinded, and pregnant women bayoneted.

For 14 years, we, the residents of Khojaly, have been living in exile. We appeal to all peaceful peoples and international organizations of the world with heartache mixed with high hope. We do not believe that such authoritative organizations as the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe as well as powerful nations are incapable of bringing Armenia — a State which defies international law and human values — to justice and to respect civilized relations between States.

The non-fulfilment of four resolutions of the Security Council calling for the unconditional withdrawal of Armenian troops from the occupied territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan damages the image of this Organization.

We are convinced that the world community, condemning the military aggression of Armenia against Azerbaijan, will assist in the restoration of the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan, the return of more than 1 million refugees and internally displaced persons to their homes, and the solution of the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh in a peaceful manner and in consonance with historical and political justice.

We, having suffered one of the most terrible tragedies of the twentieth century, condemning genocide and acts of terrorism in all its forms, call upon the peoples of the world to struggle together for peace and tranquillity. We, sounding the alarm to all international organizations, peaceful and authoritative nations, call upon

humankind to mobilize and to solve all conflicts on the Earth and to struggle for a free and prosperous community of people living in peace and order!

The appeal was adopted at the general gathering
of displaced persons from Khojaly,
held in Baku on 10 February 2006.

United Nations

A/60/698

General Assembly

Distr.: General
27 February 2006

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Sixtieth session
Agenda item 129
Human resources management

Staffing of field missions, including the use of 300- and 100-series appointments

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is issued pursuant to General Assembly resolution 59/296, section VIII, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report on the reappointment of mission staff who have reached the four-year limit under 300-series appointments of limited duration by 30 June 2006, for consideration and action by the Assembly at the second part of its resumed sixtieth session.

06-25414 (E) 140306

I. Introduction

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution 58/296, decided to suspend the application of the four-year maximum limit for appointments of limited duration under the 300 series of Staff Rules in peacekeeping operations until 31 December 2004 and requested the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the use of 300-series contracts for meeting current and future human resources requirements for peacekeeping missions. The comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the staffing of field missions, including the use of 300- and 100-series appointments,[1] outlined the current international context in which peacekeeping operations are deployed and the changing expectations of Member States and legislative bodies regarding the role of peacekeeping. In that report the Secretary-General also proposed measures to strengthen the human resources management of peacekeeping operations, enabling a better response to changing operational requirements and circumstances, and in that connection sought the approval of the Assembly to use 100-series appointments for the recruitment of staff in field missions for six months or longer in cases where there is a continuing requirement.

2. Having considered the above-mentioned report of the Secretary-General, the General Assembly, in section X of its resolution 59/266, decided to continue to suspend the application of the four-year maximum limit for appointments of limited duration under the 300 series of the Staff Rules in peacekeeping operations until June 2005. In the same section of that resolution, the Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to reappoint under the 100 series of the Staff Rules those mission staff whose service under 300-series contracts had reached the four-year limit by 31 December 2004, pending a decision by the Assembly, provided that their functions had been reviewed and found necessary and that their performance record had been confirmed as fully satisfactory. The Assembly further requested the Secretary-General to report on those staff who were reappointed from 300- to 100-series contracts after reaching the four-year limit by 31 December 2004 or later, and to submit proposals for which functions were relevant for reappointment under the 100 series.

3. In his report A/59/762, the Secretary-General provided the requested information on the reappointment of mission staff from 300- to 100-series contracts after reaching the four-year limit of their 300-series contract by 31 December 2004. He further sought the agreement of the General Assembly to use the 100-series contract for staff members performing functions for which there was a continuing need and to continue to use the 300-series contract for the appointment of staff performing short-term functions having a duration of less than one year. Pending the Assembly's consideration of that proposal, the Secretary-General also sought approval to continue the practice of reappointing staff under 100-series contracts, on a case-by-case basis, after they had completed the maximum period of service permitted under a 300-series appointment of limited duration, subject to the criteria set out in Assembly resolution 59/266.

4. Having considered the above-mentioned report of the Secretary-General, in section VIII of resolution 59/296 the Assembly decided to continue to suspend the application of the four-year maximum limit for appointments of limited duration

[1] A/59/291.

under the 300 series of the Staff Rules in peacekeeping operations until 30 June 2006. The Assembly also reiterated its request to the Secretary-General to submit proposals regarding functions for which there was a continuous need in peace operations. In the same section of that resolution, the Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to reappoint under the 100 series of the Staff Rules those mission staff whose service under 300-series contracts had reached the four-year limit by 30 June 2006, provided that their functions had been reviewed and found necessary and that their performance record had been confirmed as fully satisfactory. The Assembly further requested the Secretary-General to report thereon to the Assembly at the second part of its resumed sixtieth session.

5. The present report provides the information requested on the mission staff reappointed from 300- to 100-series contracts after reaching the four-year limit of their 300-series contract as at 30 June 2006. The report should be read in the context of the Secretary-General's management reform initiative to streamline United Nations contractual arrangements through the use of one type of appointment for all staff of the Organization, including mission staff, under a single set of staff rules that would mirror those under 100-series appointments. The proposals regarding functions for which there is a continuous need in peace operations are reflected in the report of the Secretary-General on the reform of the Field Service category, which will be before the General Assembly for consideration at its sixtieth session.

II. Reappointment of staff from 300- to 100-series contracts

6. By 30 June 2006, a total of 482 international staff will have reached four years of service under 300-series appointments of limited duration. These 482 staff members were considered for reappointment under a 100-series contract in accordance with the criteria set out in section VIII, paragraph 16, of resolution 59/296, that is, that their functions had been reviewed and found necessary and that their performance had been confirmed as fully satisfactory.

7. As a result of this case-by-case review, 403 staff members of the 482 who will have reached four years of service under 300-series appointments of limited duration by 30 June 2006 met the criteria for reappointment from 300- to 100-series contracts set out in resolution 59/296. The review for the reappointment of 58 staff members is still in process. Twenty-one staff members were not recommended for reappointment under the 100 series, as they did not meet the criteria for reappointment. Of these 21, five did not meet the criteria due to either the anticipated downsizing or the closure of the mission in which they were serving. These five remain employed under 300-series contracts. Two staff members who will reach the mandatory age of separation by 30 June 2006 did not meet the criteria for reappointment as there was no expectation of their continued service. Two staff members were not reappointed, as their performance was not deemed to be fully satisfactory. Four staff members were separated from the Organization on disciplinary grounds. Two staff members were not recommended for reappointment, as the functions they were performing were no longer required. Two staff members resigned from the Organization, and four did not wish to renew their contracts upon expiration of appointment.

8. Table 1 in the annex to the present report provides a breakdown of the numbers of both staff who met the criteria for reappointment from 300- to 100-series

contracts and those who did not. Table 2 provides a breakdown of staff who met the criteria for reappointment from 300- to 100-series contracts by function performed. The 100-series appointments of these staff members continue to be on the condition that the appointment is limited to service in a specific mission.

III. Proposed contractual arrangements

9. The comprehensive report on the staffing of field missions, including the use of 300- and 100-series appointments (A/59/291), as well as the follow-up report on the reappointment of field staff from 300- to 100-series appointments (A/59/762), described the growth in peacekeeping and the challenges faced in meeting the increasing demand for highly qualified, skilled and experienced personnel to manage complex, multidimensional peace operations. The reports also stressed the need to harmonize the conditions of service of field staff, including the standardization of contractual arrangements, to enable the Organization to attract, recruit and retain qualified staff for field missions.

10. Over the past year, the demand in peacekeeping has continued to grow. As at the end of 2005, mission staff account for over half of the total staff of the global Secretariat, yet almost 45 per cent of international mission staff continue to serve under appointments of limited duration in difficult and often dangerous duty stations with inferior conditions of service. The concept of the appointment of limited duration no longer meets the needs of peacekeeping. It does not recognize that, while individual peacekeeping operations may be of a limited duration, peacekeeping itself is a core function of the Organization that requires a stable and expert workforce capable of delivering the peacekeeping mandates entrusted to the United Nations. The appointment of limited duration does not provide competitive compensation or job security to attract and retain the skilled experts, leaders and managers needed in larger, multidimensional missions; nor does it allow the Organization to develop and capitalize on the talents of mission staff.

11. The Secretary-General's reform initiatives on streamlining United Nations contractual arrangements for all staff of the Organization would apply to staff members serving in peace operations and would thereby address these concerns. Pending the General Assembly's consideration of the Secretary-General's management reform initiatives, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations proposes the use of 100-series contracts for mission appointments for which there is a continuing requirement of one year or longer.

IV. Conclusion

12. The report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations (see A/55/305-S/2000/809) emphasized the need to recognize peacekeeping as a core function of the United Nations. To more effectively meet the staffing requirements of peace operations, the Organization needs human resources systems and contractual arrangements that attract and retain experienced and qualified field staff. **Pending the General Assembly's consideration of the Secretary-General's proposals to harmonize and streamline United Nations contractual arrangements, the Secretariat seeks the endorsement of the Assembly for the use of 100-series contracts for the appointment of staff in missions of one year or longer for**

which there is a continuing requirement. Should the Assembly not reach a decision on the contractual arrangements of mission staff before 30 June 2006, the Secretariat seeks approval to continue the practice of reappointing serving staff under 100-series contracts, on a case-by-case basis. The review would be conducted on the basis of the criteria set out in section VIII of resolution 59/296.

Annex

Table 1
Breakdown of staff reviewed for reappointment from 300- to 100-series appointments

	Number of staff reappointed from 300- to 100-series contracts			*Number of staff not reappointed from 300- to 100-series contracts*			
Mission	*Professional*	*Field Service*	***Subtotal***	*Professional*	*Field Service*	***Subtotal***	***Total***
BONUCA	1	1	**2**	1	1	**2**	**4**
MINURSO	1	9	**10**	—	1	**1**	**11**
MINUSTAH	10	16	**26**	—	1	**1**	**27**
MONUC	40	65	**105**	7	5	**12**	**117**
ONUB	6	5	**11**	1	1	**2**	**13**
ONUCI	7	14	**21**	1	—	**1**	**22**
OSRSG-GLR	1	—	**1**	—	—	**—**	**1**
UNAMA	3	4	**7**	1	1	**2**	**9**
UNAMI	—	1	**1**	—	2	**2**	**3**
UNAMSIL	2	1	**3**	2	3	**5**	**8**
UNMEE	7	12	**19**	2	12	**14**	**33**
UNMIK	71	82	**153**	17	12	**29**	**182**
UNMIL	9	9	**18**	3	5	**8**	**26**
UNMIS	4	19	**23**	—	—	**—**	**23**
UNOMIG	1	2	**3**	—	—	**—**	**3**
Total	**163**	**240**	**403**	**35**	**44**	**79**	**482**

Abbreviations: United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in the Central African Republic (BONUCA), United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO), United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC), United Nations Operation in Burundi (UNOB), United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI), Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region (OSRSG-GLR), United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI), United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL), United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE), United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), United Nations Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS), United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG).

Table 2
Breakdown of staff reappointed from 300- to 100-series appointments by function and mission

Function	*BONUCA*	*MINURSO*	*MINUSTAH*	*MONUC*	*ONUB*	*ONUCI*	*OSRSG-GLR*	*UNAMA*	*UNAMI*	*UNAMSIL*	*UNMEE*	*UNMIK*	*UNMIL*	*UNMIS*	*UNOMIG*	*Total*
Administrative assistant	—	—	—	7	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	26	2	3	—	42
Administrative officer	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	9
Administrator	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Adviser	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Air operations assistant	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	4
Air operations officer	—	—	—	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	8
Associate officer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Budget assistant	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
Budget officer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3
Buildings services assistant	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	3
Chief disarmament, demobilization and reintegration officer	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Chief finance officer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Chief of Unit	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Chief supply officer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Chief, air operations	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Chief, Fuel Unit	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Chief, integrated support services	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Chief, Supply Unit	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Civil affairs officer	—	—	3	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	30	1	—	—	37
Claims assistant	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Claims officer	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Communications	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4
Communications clerk	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Communications technician	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3
Computer information systems assistant	—	1	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	9
Computer information systems officer	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Computer systems assistant	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Contracts management assistant	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Court officer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Deputy Director	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Dispatcher	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Electronic data-processing assistant	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Engineer	—	—	1	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	10
Engineering assistant	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4

Function	BONUCA	MINURSO	MINUSTAH	MONUC	ONUB	ONUCI	OSRSG-GLR	UNAMA	UNAMI	UNAMSIL	UNMEE	UNMIK	UNMIL	UNMIS	UNOMIG	Total
Expert	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Field assistant	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Finance assistant	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	7
Finance officer	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	3
Fire officer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
General services assistant	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
General services officer	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Generator mechanic	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	7
Geographic Information System officer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Head of Office	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Head of security-sector reform	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Human resources assistant	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Human rights officer	—	—	2	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	7
Humanitarian affairs officer	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Information assistant	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Information officer	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Information technology assistant	—	—	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	9
Information technology officer	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Interpreter	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	—	—	—	17
Investigator	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Judicial affairs officer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Legal officer	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	7
Liaison officer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Logistics assistant	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	8
Logistics officer	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	5
Manager	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Medical officer	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Movement control assistant	—	1	—	2	—	4	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	10
Movement control officer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Officer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	5
Operations officer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Personal assistant	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	3
Personnel assistant	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	5
Personnel officer	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Policy coordination officer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Political affairs officer	—	—	—	7	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	12
Press officer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1

Function	*BONUCA*	*MINURSO*	*MINUSTAH*	*MONUC*	*ONUB*	*ONUCI*	*OSRSG-GLR*	*UNAMA*	*UNAMI*	*UNAMSIL*	*UNMEE*	*UNMIK*	*UNMIL*	*UNMIS*	*UNOMIG*	*Total*
Principal officer	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	**2**
Procurement assistant	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	**5**
Procurement officer	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	**2**
Property control and inventory assistant	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	**4**
Public information officer	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	**2**
Radio operator	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	**2**
Radio technician	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	**7**
Regional officer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	**1**
Second officer	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	**2**
Secretary	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	**6**
Security Officer	—	—	1	5	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	9	1	—	2	**22**
Senior officer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	**1**
Special assistant	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	**3**
Supply assistant	—	—	2	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	4	—	1	—	**12**
Supply officer	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	**3**
Technician	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	**5**
Telecommunications assistant	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	**3**
Telecommunications technician	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	**6**
Translator	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	**2**
Transport officer	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	**2**
Transportation assistant	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	**7**
Vehicle mechanic	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	**3**
Warehouse supervisor	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	**1**
Total	**2**	**10**	**26**	**105**	**11**	**21**	**1**	**7**	**1**	**3**	**19**	**153**	**18**	**23**	**3**	**403**

Abbreviations: United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in the Central African Republic (BONUCA), United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO), United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC), United Nations Operation in Burundi (UNOB), United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI), Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region (OSRSG-GLR), United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI), United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL), United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE), United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), United Nations Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS), United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG).

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Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Cost-benefit analysis on the issue of the transfer of vehicles with high mileage to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, to other missions and to upcoming United Nations peacekeeping operations

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report provides information on the transfer of vehicles with high mileage to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, and to other peacekeeping missions based on the operational requirements of the upcoming missions and the roadworthiness of the vehicles. The General Assembly is requested to take note of the report.

06-25546 (E) 080306

I. Background

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to section XX, paragraph 1, of General Assembly resolution 59/296 of 22 June 2005, wherein the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to provide it with a cost-benefit analysis on the issue of the transfer of vehicles with high mileage to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, to other missions and to upcoming missions, taking into account the cost of freight, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its sixtieth session.

II. Current procedures

2. Financial regulation 5.14 (a)[1] promulgates the following: "Equipment in good condition that conforms to established standardization or is considered compatible with existing equipment will be redeployed to other peacekeeping operations or will be placed in reserve to form start-up kits for use by future missions". Following this regulation, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations limits the transfer to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, of transportation assets that have high value, and long-life items such as engineering equipment, airfield support equipment, fire fighting equipment, heavy trucks, and mine-protected and armoured vehicles. These vehicles are refurbished at the Logistics Base and transferred to other field operations at no cost to the receiving missions. Transfer of light vehicles is undertaken on an exceptional basis in order to meet those immediate operational requirements that cannot be met from strategic deployment stocks or that cannot be met owing to procurement lead times.

III. Transfer of used light vehicles to peacekeeping missions

3. In 2004, there had been established four peacekeeping operations, namely, the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (ONUCI), the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), the United Nations Operation in Burundi (ONUB) and the United Nations Advance Mission in the Sudan (UNAMIS), besides the planned expansion of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Secretariat was tasked to have new missions operational within 90 days of the adoption of the respective Security Council resolutions. During that period, the holdings of 4x4 vehicles in the strategic deployment stocks were depleted owing to start-up of the United Nations Mission in Liberia and replenishments had not yet been delivered. Under the circumstances, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, as an exceptional measure, decided to transfer light vehicles from liquidating/downsizing missions.

4. *Transfer of 150 used light 4x4 vehicles from the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) to the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire.* Owing to the developing political situation, it was imperative that the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire take over quickly from the Economic Community of West African States Mission in Côte d'Ivoire. To support such a concept, it was essential to rapidly deploy vehicles so as to achieve the desired

[1] See ST/SGB/2003/7.

objective. To meet the operational requirement of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations pursued the option of renting one hundred and fifty 4x4 vehicles in the mission area. However, it was determined that the requirement could not be met by the local market, which even demanded an exorbitant daily rate for the limited number of vehicles available. It should also be noted that the integration of such rented vehicles would have been expensive, as this would have involved painting them in United Nations colours and equipping them with United Nations communications equipment.

5. As the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo was downsizing at that time, a number of serviceable vehicles, including some high-mileage but roadworthy ones, were available as surplus for the requirement. To meet the urgent operational requirements of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire, as described above, it was decided to transfer the identified surplus 4x4 vehicles from the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo as a stopgap measure until the regular mission vehicles arrived through normal procurement. The intervening period would allow useful exploitation of the residual life of the transferred vehicles and would also afford a cost-effective solution to meeting the urgent operational needs in the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire. This plan was successfully executed, achieving overall operational sufficiency and cost-effectiveness.

6. *Transfer of 20 light 4x4 vehicles from the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA) to the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti.* The circumstances that prompted the transfer of these vehicles were similar to those in the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire. The local market conditions in Haiti were similar to those in Côte d'Ivoire. The strategic deployment stock of light 4x4 vehicles had been depleted and the operational requirements of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti were immediate and critical. As part of a catalogue of capital equipment that was shipped to the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti, it had been deemed operationally and financially prudent to include 20 used vehicles from the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala. These vehicles were in good mechanical condition and with a residual life of from one to two years.

IV. Recommendation

7. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations will continue to review the transfer of high-mileage 4x4 vehicles to new and expanding missions, as exceptions and on case-by-case basis, keeping in view the operational needs, the condition of vehicles and the cost-effectiveness of such shipments.

V. Action to be taken by the General Assembly

8. The General Assembly is requested to take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the deployment of high-mileage light vehicles to new or expanding missions.

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Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Performance report on the budget of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005 and implementation of the strategic deployment stocks, including the award of contracts for procurement

Report of the Secretary-General

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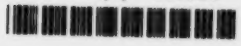

Summary

The present report contains the performance report on the budget of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005.

The total expenditure for the Logistics Base for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005 has been linked to the objective of the Logistics Base through a results-based framework under a support component.

Performance of the United Nations Logistics Base financial resources
(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005.)

Category	*Apportionment*	*Expenditure*	*Variance*	
			Amount	*Percentage*
Civilian personnel	10 152.6	10 119.7	32.9	0.3
Operational requirements	18 269.4	18 065.0	204.4	1.1
Gross requirements	**28 422.0**	**28 184.7**	**237.3**	**0.8**
Staff assessment income	1 560.6	1 604.7	(44.1)	(2.8)
Net requirements	**26 861.4**	**26 580.0**	**281.4**	**1.0**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	—	—	—	—
Total requirements	**28 422.0**	**28 184.7**	**237.3**	**0.8**

Human resources incumbency performance

Category	*Approved*[a]	*Actual (average)*	*Vacancy rate (percentage)*
International staff	37	32	13.5
National staff	99	96	3.0

[a] Represents the highest level of authorized strength.

The present report also contains, as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Advisory and Budgetary Questions (A/58/759/Add.9, para. 26) and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 58/297 of 18 June 2004, a report on implementation of the strategic deployment stocks and a summary of the award of strategic deployment stocks procurement contracts for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005.

Performance of strategic deployment stocks
(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Issued*	*Replenishment (Expenditure)*
Strategic deployment stocks	106 657.0	89 400.8

The actions to be taken by the General Assembly regarding the Logistics Base and strategic deployment stocks are set out in section VI of the present report.

I. Introduction

1. The budget for the maintenance of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005 was set out in the report of the Secretary-General of 10 February 2004 (A/58/706) and amounted to $28,799,700 gross ($27,104,600 net). It provided for 37 international staff and 114 national staff. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in paragraph 34 of its report dated 12 April 2004 (A/58/759/Add.9), recommended that the General Assembly appropriate $28,422,000 gross for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005.

2. The General Assembly, by its resolution 58/297 of 18 June 2004, appropriated an amount of $28,422,000 gross ($26,861,400 net) for the maintenance of the Logistics Base for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005. The approved budget provided for 37 international and 99 national staff. The total amount has been assessed on Member States.

3. The General Assembly, in resolution 56/292 of 27 June 2002, endorsed the concept and implementation of the strategic deployment stocks, set out in the report of the Secretary-General (A/56/870), for one complex mission and approved $141,546,000 for that purpose. In its resolution 57/315 of 18 June 2003 the Assembly extended the validity of the approved resources to 30 June 2004. Furthermore, the Assembly, in its resolution 59/299 of 22 June 2005, approved the use of savings derived from the liquidation of prior period obligations and the unspent balance of the strategic deployment stocks to cover losses on currency exchange and the replenishment of stocks. The Assembly also approved the inclusion of the strategic deployment stocks replenishment within the commitment authority described in section IV, paragraph 1, of its resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994. Outstanding contributions from Member States for strategic deployment stocks amounted to $13.6 million as at 31 December 2005. Of that amount, $13.5 million (99 per cent) is related to the special assessed contribution of one Member State.

II. Objective and results

4. The original storage facility for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations was the United Nations Supply Depot, first located in Naples and later moved to Pisa, Italy. The supply depot was first established to receive assets available upon the closure of the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF 1) in 1956. The United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, providing logistic support, telecommunications and training services for all peacekeeping operations, has been in operation since late 1994 under a rent-free arrangement with Italy. The memorandum of understanding regarding the use of the facilities at Brindisi was signed by the Secretary-General and Italy on 23 November 1994 and amended on 7 December 2001.

5. The objective of the Logistics Base, as it is for the support account, is to ensure efficient and effective peacekeeping operations.

6. Within this overall objective, the Logistics Base has during the performance report period contributed to one expected accomplishment by delivering related key outputs. As shown in the frameworks below, these outputs have been regrouped

under four subheadings — strategic deployment stocks and United Nations reserve stocks management, communications hub and information technology network operations, training services and management and administration of the Logistics Base — to facilitate the consolidation of the Logistics Base performance report and the report on the implementation of the strategic deployment stocks.

7. The present report assesses actual performance of the Logistics Base against the planned results-based frameworks set out in the 2004/05 budget. In particular, the performance report compares the actual indicators of achievement, the extent to which progress has been made during the period against the expected accomplishment, with the planned indicators of achievement, and compares the completed outputs with the planned outputs. This includes the actual performance of the Logistics Base in terms of its responsibilities for the implementation and management of the strategic deployment stocks, as defined in the report of the Secretary-General (A/56/870, para. 14).

Results-based frameworks

Component: support

Expected accomplishment: increased efficiency and effectiveness in conducting, managing, directing and supporting peacekeeping operations

Planned indicators of achievement	*Actual indicators of achievement*
100 per cent availability of stocks for one complex mission	Average of 43 per cent ($61.07 million of total approved strategic deployment stocks stock of $141.5 million) availability of stocks for one complex mission In addition, receipt and inspection of strategic deployment stocks related items in 34 days on average in 2004/05 (target of 26 days in 2005/06 and 25 days in 2006/07)
Shipment processing time from Headquarters materiel release order to dispatch reduced from 60 days in 2003/04 to 30 days in 2004/05. Target: 20 days in 2005/06	Shipment processing time, including for strategic deployment stocks and United Nations reserve stocks, reduced to an average of 38 days, with 89 per cent (595 materiel release orders out of 665) processed in less than 30 days
Trans-shipment stocks minimized to holding period of 90 days	Achieved. The holding period of trans-shipment stocks did not exceed 77 days
Availability of worldwide communication and information technology network for peacekeeping operations increased from 99.5 per cent (2003/04) to 99.6 per cent (2004/05). Target: 99.7 per cent (2005/06)	Achieved and exceeded for 80 per cent (52 out of 65 links) of the links; for the remaining 13 links availability ranged from 98.3 to 99.5 per cent owing to technical factors at the Logistics Base and remote stations

Planned outputs	*Completed (number or yes/no)*	*Remarks*
Strategic deployment stocks and United Nations reserve stocks management		
Maintained strategic deployment stocks fleet of 1,190 vehicles and 350 generators to warranty standards	563	Vehicles, comprising all strategic deployment stocks vehicles in stock (holdings at highest 563 vehicles) maintained
	466	Generators, comprising all strategic deployment stocks generators in stock (holdings at highest 466 generators) maintained
		In addition, 179 (holdings at highest) United Nations reserve stocks generators maintained
Commissioned San Pancrazio depot with dehumidified shelters for long-term storage of strategic deployment stocks vehicles fleet	Yes	Depot commissioned and fully operational; the site was temporarily closed in April 2005 due to low strategic deployment stocks vehicle holdings
New Galileo-based inventory management system incorporated for United Nations reserve and strategic deployment stocks	No	Galileo already implemented in the financial period 2003/04
12,000 tons of goods shipped by sea/air/land	12 492	Including shipment of strategic deployment stocks stock, United Nations reserve stock and trans-shipments and comprising 1,282 tons shipped by air, 118 tons shipped by road and 11,092 tons shipped by sea
200 sea containers refurbished and certified for seaworthiness	15	Containers refurbished
	31	Containers certified for seaworthiness; seaworthiness of 24 containers rejected
		Lower number owing to low demand
System integration of 1 rapid deployment telecommunications system for a complex mission and 9 mobile deployable communications systems carried out	1	Rapid deployment telecommunications system integrated
	5	Mobile deployable communications systems integrated and deployed to missions; integration of 5 further mobile deployable communications systems almost completed, target date for completion August 2005
Handled 150 aircraft movements	82	Comprising 82 movements in support of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, including strategic deployment stocks and United Nations reserve stock shipments (excluding 127 aircraft movements in support of the World Food Programme that had been included in the planned output)

		In addition, receipt and inspection of strategic deployment stocks items (including vehicles, generators, prefabricated buildings and associated equipment, communications and information technology equipment, spare parts and expendables)
Communications hub and information technology network operations		
Maintained worldwide communications and information technology networks for peacekeeping missions and headquarters, including provision of worldwide voice, video and data network	Yes	Including 65 communications and information technology links maintained
Handled 22,000 mission communication and information technology support calls	35 340	Comprising 31,846 mission support and 3,494 local Logistics Base support calls
		Higher number owing to the advent of new centrally hosted applications, including Galileo and Mercury, and new missions
Maintained the following systems:		Global system mobile sites
- 4 global system mobile cellular sites	4	Satellite trailers
- 37 satellite trailers	49	Higher number as a result of 12 satellite trailers maintained and prepared for issuance to the United Nations Mission in the Sudan and the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
- 6 complete broadcast studios/transmitter combination	6	Broadcast studios
- 1 digital trunking system	1	Digital trunking system
- 1 transportable traffic control tower for airport	1	Traffic control tower
Training services		
Managed 110 courses for 1,500 participants	104	Training courses
		Lower number due to cancellation of administrative courses by Headquarters
	1 479	Participants
Maintained 12 training centre facilities with a capacity of 250 participants	12	Facilities maintained
		In addition, a conference/seminar room upgraded to manage up to 45 participants (previously accommodated 35) and to allow for remote participation via a videoconferencing system; a new training laboratory with a 20 workstation capacity established

Management and administration of the Logistics Base

Maintained 49 buildings, 16 softwall shelters and 365,705 square metre open storage area	49	Buildings
	16	Softwall shelters
	365 705	Square metre open storage area
		In addition, 3 office buildings renovated and 3 vehicle workshops improved
Refurbished 55 per cent of 11 kilometres of roadways in the base	No	22 per cent of roadways refurbished
		Lower number because refurbishment work depended on progress in a storm water drainage project that was cancelled as a result of an alternative solution proposed by the City of Brindisi
Maintained the Logistics Base vehicle fleet of 118 consisting of light, medium and heavy forklift, trucks, trailers, sedans, and delivery vans at 95% readiness state	118	

III. Resource performance: United Nations Logistics Base

A. Financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005.)

			Variance	
	Apportionment	*Expenditures*	*Amount*	*Percentage*
Category	*(1)*	*(2)*	*(3) = (1) - (2)*	*(4) = (3) ÷ (1)*
Civilian personnel				
International staff	4 700.0	4 552.7	147.3	3.1
National staff	5 452.6	5 567.0	(114.4)	(2.1)
United Nations Volunteers	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	**10 152.6**	**10 119.7**	**32.9**	**0.3**
Operational costs				
General temporary assistance	59.0	58.9	0.1	0.2
Government-provided personnel	—	—	—	—
Civilian electoral observers	—	—	—	—
Consultants	242.0	201.7	40.3	16.7
Official travel	302.6	299.6	3.0	1.0
Facilities and infrastructure	6 366.9	6 215.0	151.9	2.4
Ground transportation	1 963.2	1 797.1	166.1	8.5
Air transportation	—	—	—	—
Naval transportation	—	—	—	—
Communications	4 690.2	4 314.0	376.2	8.0
Information technology	3 591.5	3 844.0	(252.5)	(7.0)
Medical	200.0	182.2	17.8	8.9
Special equipment	—	—	—	—
Other supplies, services and equipment	854.0	1 152.5	(298.5)	(35.0)
Quick-impact projects	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	**18 269.4**	**18 065.0**	**204.4**	**1.1**
Gross requirements	**28 422.0**	**28 184.7**	**237.3**	**0.8**
Staff assessment income	1 560.6	1 604.7	(44.1)	(2.8)
Net requirements	**26 861.4**	**26 580.0**	**281.4**	**1.0**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	—	—	—	—
Total requirements	**28 422.0**	**28 184.7**	**237.3**	**0.8**

B. Other income and adjustments

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Amount*
Interest income	345.8
Other/miscellaneous income	315.1
Voluntary contributions in cash	—
Prior-period adjustments	—
Savings on, or cancellation of prior period obligations	501.0
Total	**1 161.9**

C. Value of non-budgeted contributions

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Actual value*
Memorandum of understanding[a]	1 620.7
Voluntary contributions in kind (non-budgeted)	—
Total	**1 620.7**

[a] Inclusive of office buildings, workshop structures and warehouse structures from the Government of Italy.

IV. Analysis of variances:[1] United Nations Logistics Base

	Variance	
International staff	$147.3	3.1%

8. The reduced requirements were due mainly to a higher than expected average vacancy rate of 13.5 per cent, ranging from 21.6 per cent in July 2004 to 5.4 per cent in June 2005. The initial cost estimates for 2004/05 were inclusive of a 10 per cent vacancy rate.

	Variance	
National staff	($114.4)	(2.1%)

9. The increased requirements were due partly to a lower than expected vacancy rate of 3.0 per cent on average, ranging from 2 per cent in July 2004 to 4 per cent in June 2005. The initial cost estimates for 2004/05 were inclusive of a 5 per cent vacancy rate. The increased requirements, in local salaries paid in euros, were also due to the appreciation of the euro against the United States dollar.

[1] Resource variance amounts are expressed in thousands of United States dollars.

	Variance	
Consultants	$40.3	16.7%

10. The reduced requirements were due mainly to the cancellation of a storm water drainage project, and hence reduced requirements for engineering consultants, as a result of an alternative solution proposed by the City of Brindisi.

	Variance	
Facilities and infrastructure	$151.9	2.4%

11. The reduced requirements were due mainly to the cancellation of a storm water drainage project, and hence reduced scope of alteration and renovation services, as well as of construction work for the asphalting and concreting of roads and pavements. Reduced requirements also resulted from higher than anticipated turnover of strategic deployment stock items (generators, prefabricated buildings and associated equipment) leading to lower than expected maintenance requirements. The reduced requirements were in part offset by an advancement of a warehouse dehumidifying project from 2005/06 and an increase in the cost of electricity owing to price increases and appreciation of the euro against the United States dollar.

	Variance	
Ground transportation	$166.1	8.5%

12. The lower requirements were due mainly to the lower than anticipated strategic deployment stocks vehicle holdings and the higher than expected turnover of strategic deployment stock vehicles reducing the requirements for maintenance support and preservation of the strategic deployment stock vehicle fleet.

	Variance	
Communications	$376.2	8.0%

13. The reduced requirements were due mainly to the fact that $326,000 of communications support services were inadvertently charged under information technology services, implying an actual total variance of $50,200. These reduced requirements were due mainly to savings in spare parts since the Logistics Base was able to maintain communications technology equipment for less than the standard 10 per cent of its inventory value.

	Variance	
Information technology	($252.5)	(7.0%)

14. The increased requirements were due mainly to the fact that $326,000 of Communications Support Services were inadvertently charged under Information Technology Services, implying an actual total variance of $73,500. These reduced requirements were due mainly to savings in spare parts since the Logistics Base was able to maintain information technology equipment for less than the standard 10 per cent of its inventory value, reduced requirements for Cisco engineering support services, and a lower than estimated price for a global licence agreement.

	Variance	
Medical	$17.8	8.9%

15. The lower requirement is due to the lower than anticipated cost for the holding and maintenance of strategic deployment stock medical equipment and supplies by a contractor.

	Variance	
Other supplies, services and equipment	($298.5)	(35.0%)

16. The higher requirement was due mainly to an unbudgeted loss on exchange due to appreciation of the euro against the United States dollar.

V. Resource performance: strategic deployment stocks

A. Financial resources

17. As reported in document A/59/701, at the end of fiscal year 2003/04, of the total approved funds of $141.5 million to establish strategic deployment stocks, $9,033 remained unspent and total unliquidated obligations amounted to $20.8 million.

18. As at 30 June 2005, savings and an unspent balance from the liquidation of prior period obligations amounted to $3.6 million. These savings will be used to cover losses in currency exchange and the replenishment of the stocks, as per General Assembly resolution 59/299.

19. In 2004/05 strategic deployment stock assets valued at $106.7 million were issued to missions as shown in table 1 below.

Table 1
Total value of strategic deployment stocks issued to mission from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005
(Thousands of United States dollars)

Receiving operation	*Amount*
United Nations Mission in the Sudan	57 341.7
United Nations Operation in Burundi	14 309.0
United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti	12 142.0
United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire	10 306.9
United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq	4 957.3
United Nations Mission in Liberia	5 771.8
9 other operations[a]	1 828.3

[a] Independent Inquiry Commission, United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara, United Nations Office for West Africa, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus, United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

20. The strategic deployment stock replenishment expenditure for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005 totalled $89.4 million, as shown in table 2 below.

Table 2
Total of strategic deployment stock replenishment expenditure by category, from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005
(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Amount*
Facilities and infrastructure	39 397.5
Ground transportation	26 533.3
Communications	14 434.7
Information technology	6 535.9
Medical	660.7
Miscellaneous supplies and services	1 149.0
Special equipment	689.7
Total	**89 400.8**

21. The total replenishment of $89.4 million comprises $21.3 million to replenish items shipped as at 30 June 2004 and $68.1 million to replenish items shipped during financial year 2004/05. This implies that altogether $38.6 million of strategic deployment stock items issued in 2004/05 were not replenished during the financial period.

22. Of the $38.6 million non-replenished strategic deployment stocks issued in 2004/05, 60 per cent correspond to strategic deployment stock items that were shipped in the month of June 2005. The remaining 40 per cent of the non-replenished strategic deployment stocks was deferred until the review of the strategic deployment stock composition had been completed in November 2005.

B. Procurement summary

23. During the financial year 2004/05 purchase orders at a total value of $91.7 million were awarded for replenishment of the strategic deployment stock as shown in annex I. The total value of $91.7 million recorded in the procurement system differs by some 2.5 per cent from the replenishment expenditure of $89.4 recorded in the finance system owing to exchange rate fluctuations that were not captured in the procurement system.

24. In addition, purchase orders for freight forwarding and insurance services associated with the stock shipments were issued in a total amount of $2.2 million, as shown in annex II.

25. The total of $93.9 million of purchase orders awarded include orders issued against systems contracts in place for telecommunication and information technology equipment, generators, prefabricated buildings, engineering and transportation equipment.

VI. Actions to be taken by the General Assembly

26. **The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of the United Nations Logistics Base are:**

(a) To decide that Member States shall waive their respective shares in other income for the period ended 30 June 2005 amounting to $1,161,900, and their respective shares in the amount of $57,300 from the unencumbered balance of $237,300 for the period ended 30 June 2005, to be applied to meeting the current and future after-service health insurance liabilities of the United Nations;

(b) To decide on the treatment of the remaining unencumbered balance of $180,000 for the period ended 30 June 2005.

27. **The action to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the strategic deployment stocks is to take note of the present report.**

Annex I

Strategic deployment stocks procurement summary

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Contracts	*Strategic deployment stock purchase orders from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2006*
Austria	3 341.4
Motor vehicles and parts and accessories thereof	
Belgium	65.2
Furniture	
Telecommunications equipment	
Canada	810.8
Filtering and purifying equipment	
Optical instruments	
Prefabricated buildings	
China	45.0
Domestic appliances other than cooling and heating equipment	
Photographic and cinematographic equipment	
Czech Republic	2 420.0
Motor vehicles and parts and accessories thereof	
Denmark	4 266.0
Air-conditioning, cold chain and refrigerating equipment	
Angles, shapes and sections, of iron or non-alloy steel	
Electric motors, generators and transformers, parts thereof	
Electricity distribution or control apparatus, parts and accessories thereof	
Lighting equipment	
Microcomputers	
Printing and plotting devices for electronic data-processing equipment	
Protection devices for electronic data-processing equipment	
Radio broadcast and television receivers	
Telecommunications equipment	
Trailers and semi-trailers; containers	
Finland	92.3
Software. computer, including manuals	

Contracts	*Strategic deployment stock purchase orders from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2006*
France	14 819.0
Air-conditioning, cold chain and refrigerating equipment	
Food supply	
Motor vehicles and parts and accessories thereof	
Prefabricated buildings	
Germany	2 658.5
Articles for medical or surgical purposes	
Decanting, distilling, evaporating, extracting, filtering equipment, etc.	
Filtering and purifying equipment	
India	2 317.1
Electronic data-processing equipment	
Electric motors, generators and the like	
Microcomputers	
Optical input/output units, such as scanners, optical readers, etc.	
Printing and plotting devices for electronic data-processing equipment	
Sacks and bags, of a kind used for the packing of goods	
Stoppers, caps, lids and other metal packing accessories; wire and wire products	
Telecommunications equipment	
Ireland	59.0
Telecommunications equipment	
Israel	418.0
Decanting, distilling, evaporating, extracting, filtering equipment, etc.	
Doors, windows and their frames, of iron, steel or aluminium	
Filtering and purifying equipment	
Optical instruments	
Safety clothing and headgear; other headgear of rubber or plastics	
Safety equipment	
Telecommunications equipment	
Italy	13 424.0
Domestic metal products	
Electronic data-processing equipment	
Electric motors, generators and the like	
Forklift trucks and other works trucks	
Furniture	

Contracts	*Strategic deployment stock purchase orders from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2006*
Furniture, office, other than chairs	
Hand tools	
Metal goods	
Motor vehicles and parts and accessories thereof	
Photographic and cinematographic equipment	
Prefabricated buildings	
Primary cells and primary batteries	
Printing and plotting devices for electronic data-processing equipment	
Projection accessories	
Recording and reproducing apparatus, for sound and video	
Security and safety equipment	
Stationery articles	
Telecommunications equipment	
Wood for joinery and carpentry, other	
Japan	14 492.0
Motor vehicles and parts and accessories thereof	
Monaco	1 196.4
Prefabricated building	
Netherlands	1 286.4
Electrical equipment	
Furniture	
Hand tools	
Motor vehicles and parts and accessories thereof	
Prefabricated buildings	
Telecommunications equipment	
New Zealand	604.0
Telecommunications equipment	
Norway	2 080.3
Prefabricated buildings	
Republic of Korea	1 237.1
Office machines, other	
Prefabricated buildings	
Telecommunications equipment	
Singapore	57.2
Filtering and purifying equipment	
Machinery, special purpose, other	
South Africa	351.0
Stoppers, caps, lids and other metal packing accessories; wire and wire products	

Contracts	*Strategic deployment stock purchase orders from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2006*
Spain	268.2
Motor vehicles and parts and accessories thereof	
Sweden	2 611.3
Air-conditioning, cold chain and refrigerating equipment	
Lighting equipment	
Projectors	
Records, tapes and other recorded media for sound or other recorded phenomena	
Sacks and bags, of a kind used for the packing of goods	
Stoppers, caps, lids and other metal packing accessories; wire and wire products	
Telecommunications equipment	
Switzerland	767.0
Motor vehicles and parts and accessories thereof	
Turkey	342.2
Prefabricated buildings	
Telecommunications equipment	
United Arab Emirates	73.0
Domestic appliances other than cooling and heating equipment	
Domestic cooking and heating equipment	
United Kingdom	8 689.3
Articles for medical or surgical purposes	
Buildings, prefabricated for office, school, home or warehouse	
Crowd control equipment	
Floor coverings of plastics	
Lighting equipment	
Motor vehicles and parts and accessories thereof	
Telecommunications equipment	
Weighing equipment, micrometers, gauges, etc.	
Wood for joinery and carpentry, other	
United States of America	12 922.2
Articles for medical or surgical purposes	
Calculating machines and similar calculating devices	
Diodes, transistors and similar semiconductor devices	
Electronic data-processing equipment	
Electricity distribution or control apparatus	
Glass, unworked, flat glass and pressed or moulded glass for construction	
Industrial catering equipment	

Contracts	*Strategic deployment stock purchase orders from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2006*
Inter-office communications systems	
Lighting equipment	
Machinery, special purposes, other	
Measuring, checking and testing appliances	
Microcomputers	
Mortuary supplies	
Motor vehicles and parts and accessories thereof	
Optical input/output units, such as scanners, optical readers, etc.	
Paper and paperboard products, other	
Photographic and cinematographic equipment	
Prefabricated buildings	
Printing and plotting devices for electronic data-processing equipment	
Projectors	
Radio broadcast and television receivers	
Seats and chairs	
Security and safety equipment	
Telecommunications equipment	
Trailers and semi-trailers; containers	
Transformers, electrical	
Weighing equipment, micrometers, gauges, etc.	
X-ray or alpha, beta or gamma radiation apparatus, medical and surgical	
Total	**91 713.9**

Annex II

Strategic deployment stocks freight forwarding and insurance costs

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Contracts	*Strategic deployment stocks purchase orders from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005*
Denmark	12.5
Freight forwarding	
France	27.5
Freight forwarding	
Italy	14.8
Freight forwarding	
Japan	1 053.0
Freight forwarding	
United States of America	
Freight forwarding	903.3
Insurance	204.4
Total	**2 215.4**

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General Assembly
Security Council

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General Assembly
Sixtieth session
Agenda items 39, 40, 70 and 71 (b)

Security Council
Sixty-first year

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

Right of peoples to self-determination

Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Letter dated 24 February 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Eighteen years ago the pogroms of Armenians in Sumgait marked the beginning of killings and later the depopulation of Azerbaijan of its almost half a million Armenian population. From 1988 to 1990, the deliberate manipulation of the Azerbaijani public led to the massacres of Armenians in three of the largest cities of Azerbaijan — Sumgait, Kirovabad (Ganja) and Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan. On 27 February 1988, Azeris went on a three-day rampage in Sumgait, an industrial town 20 miles from Baku, murdering members of the town's large Armenian minority, looting and destroying their property. The events were preceded by a wave of anti-Armenian statements and rallies that swept over Azerbaijan in February 1988. Most of the victims were burned alive after being assaulted and tortured. The murderers enjoyed total support of the Azerbaijani authorities and full freedom in committing these inhuman acts against the Armenian population.

The Sumgait events were organized with a view to hushing up and concealing the legal and peaceful quest of the Nagorno Karabagh people for self-determination after 70 years of unlawful subjugation to Azerbaijani rule. While the people of Nagorno Karabagh chose the constitutional and peaceful path to the exercise of its right, the response of the Azerbaijani authorities was pogroms and killings of Armenians. The premeditated killings in Sumgait were to transform the problem of

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Nagorno Karabagh from a peaceful, democratic and legal process into a violent confrontation.

This was the first time that ethnic cleansing was utilized in what was still a Soviet space. The international community's response to these horrific events was explicit. On 7 July 1988, the European Parliament adopted a resolution condemning the massacres in Sumgait,[1] which read:

"The European Parliament,

"...

"B. having regard to the historic status of the autonomous region of Nagorno-Karabakh (80 per cent of whose present population is Armenian) as part of Armenia, to the arbitrary inclusion of this area within Azerbaijan in 1923 and to the massacre of Armenians in the Azerbaijani town of Sumgait in February 1988,

"C. whereas the deteriorating political situation, which has led to anti-Armenian pogroms in Sumgait and serious acts of violence in Baku, is in itself a threat to the safety of the Armenians living in Azerbaijan,

"1. Condemns the violence employed against Armenian demonstrators in Azerbaijan;

"2. Supports the demand of the Armenian minority for reunification with the Socialist Republic of Armenia;

"...

"4. Calls upon the Soviet authorities to ensure the safety of the 500,000 Armenians currently living in Soviet Azerbaijan and to ensure that those found guilty of having incited or taken part in the pogroms against the Armenians are punished according to Soviet law."

Understanding Sumgait is critical for the peaceful resolution of the Nagorno Karabagh conflict, as today fuelling of anti-Armenian hatred in Azerbaijan continues virulently.

The Azerbaijani leadership, then and now, never expressed remorse over the ethnic cleansing of the Armenians. In fact, the Azeri leadership encouraged the massacres of the Armenians of Azerbaijan, directly and indirectly, through creation of an environment conducive to violence and impunity for such crimes. According to Ilias Izmailov, Azerbaijan's Prosecutor General during the Sumgait pogroms, "Perpetrators of the pogroms now carry mandates and sit in the Parliament" (*Zerkalo*, 21 February 2003).

Exaltation of impunity continues even today. After the vicious act in Budapest, where an Armenian officer was brutally axed in his sleep by an Azerbaijani officer at a NATO "Partnership for Peace" training programme, so-called "committees for the support" of the Azerbaijani military officer were created in Azerbaijan and the perpetrator was depicted as a hero. Just recently he was named the "Man of the Year" by a political party in Azerbaijan.

[1] See also S/2004/168.

There is much to be alarmed about as the policies of ethnic cleansing continue to be utilized by the Azerbaijani leadership incessantly and with impunity. In its zealous effort to erase any Armenian footprint it has embarked on vandalized destruction of centuries-old Armenian monuments in Nakhichevan (Djulfa). This is ever more disturbing as it takes place at a time when the international community takes demonstrable steps to emphasize respect for the cultural and religious diversity of people. These deplorable acts are strongly criticized by the international community. A few days ago, on 16 February 2006, the European Parliament adopted a resolution condemning the systematic destruction of the Armenian *khachkars* in Nakhichevan (Djulfa).

It comes as no surprise that the cultivation and encouragement of war rhetoric by the authorities, and their militaristic policies, which adversely affect the prospects of the peace process, would lead to such gruesome acts. All these could not but raise concerns over the increase of aggressiveness in Azerbaijani society as a result of such encouragements and effective hate propaganda by the top leadership of Azerbaijan. President Ilham Aliyev has repeatedly told his nation that Azerbaijan could launch a new war in Karabagh. Just last week, continuing his President's lead in fuelling aggressiveness and war mongering in the society, a member of the Azerbaijani Parliament, Havva Mammedova, said: "It is time to wipe Armenia from the face of the earth." Today, calls to solve the Nagorno Karabagh conflict by military means are commonplace in Baku. A natural result of this kind of intoxication is an increase in distrust and insecurity, which negatively impacts the whole negotiation process.

Peace in the region can be achieved and maintained only when confidence among nations exist. The latter is possible only through reduction of tension and discontinuation of hate propaganda, which will make the public susceptible to peace, creating a favourable environment for finding a durable solution to the Nagorno Karabagh conflict.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 39, 40, 70 and 71 (b), and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Armen **Martirosyan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/60/702

General Assembly

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28 February 2006

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Sixtieth session
Agenda item 118
United Nations reform: measures and proposals

Letter dated 27 February 2006 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to reiterate the position of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the "United Nations Command" in south Korea in the light of United Nations reform.

Recently, the United States, referring to United Nations reform, argued that peacekeeping operations that have not played a due role in ending conflicts and securing peace and stability or have lasted longer than necessary should be terminated.

In this regard, we hold that dismantling the illegal "United Nations Command" that has existed in south Korea for more than half a century is indeed the number 1 target of United Nations reform. We cannot think of true United Nations reform if hangovers from the past century that do not have an actual relationship with the United Nations are left intact because the super-Power has a hand in them.

In July 1950, the United States arbitrarily gave the name "United Nations Command" to the "Command of the US Army Forces Far East", which is a typical pattern of misuse of the United Nations.

The United States claims that the "United Nations Command" is based on the Security Council resolution. However, that resolution was adopted without the participation of the former Soviet Union, one of the permanent members, and does not have a provision that specifies the establishment of a "United Nations Command".

The "United Nations Command" that the United States fabricated unlawfully by misusing the name of the United Nations creates obstacles to the settlement of the Korean issue and damages the credibility of the United Nations.

At its thirtieth session, in 1975, the General Assembly recognized the continued existence of the "United Nations Command" in south Korea as unnecessary and adopted a resolution to dismantle it.

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Nevertheless, the United States is insisting on the continued existence of the command, which reveals its ulterior intention to maintain its military supremacy in the Korean peninsula and north-east Asia, by continuously misusing the United Nations name.

We hold that the current United Nations reform process should be focused on the complete removal of the traces, from the past century, of misuse of the United Nations for improper political and military purposes.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 118.

(*Signed*) **Pak** Gil Yon
Ambassador
Permanent Representative